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LARSEN BROTHERS,

40 Lockman Street,

HALIFAX, N. S.

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Macao	12	
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Hayti, 1, 2, 3, 5	5	12
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LARSEN BROTHERS,
40 Lockman Street,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

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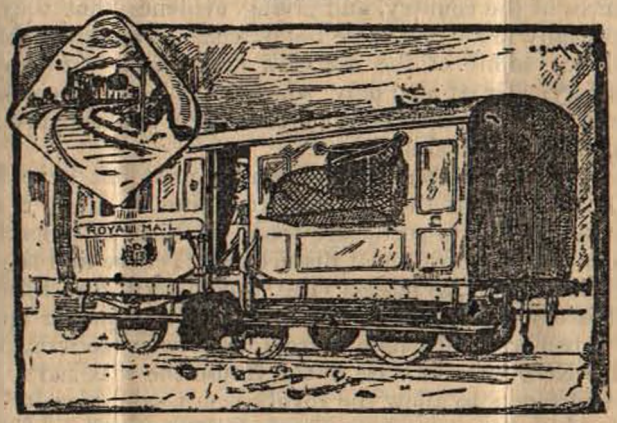
HER MAJESTY'S MAIL.

BY MISS MAY TWEEDIE.



TRAVELLING POST-OFFICE.

The most graphic pen, or brilliant imagination, must fail in attempting any adequate picture of the condition of society without the modern post-office. The growth of this institution from the unpretending beginnings of other days to the great and ubiquitous organization which is now the indispensable medium of communication with every portion of the world, is the result of never-ending improvement, during a long series of years.

As our morning letters arrive and are handed in at the breakfast table, speculation arises as to their origin; a well known hand is recognized, interest is excited by the contents or the well-springs of emotion are opened—joy is brought by the silvered note, or sorrow with the black insignia of death; and thus absorbed in the matter of the letters themselves, no thought is spared to the past and present labour which has given them wings or directed their flight.

Notwithstanding the fact that the post-office is pre-eminently a people's institution, and that from the universality of its operations it becomes familiar to the rich and poor, the educated and the illiterate, yet its internal management and organization are comparatively unknown.

Though this plain matter-of-fact department is considered too unromantic to afford much of interest, its lighter features will be found to have at least

a curious or amusing side, which will perhaps develop in the reader a new and unexpected interest in "the hundred-handed giant who keeps up the intercourse between the different parts of the country, and wafts a sigh from Indus to the Pole."

How the people managed to get from place to place before the post-office had a history, or indeed for some time after the birth of that institution, is almost inconceivable to the present generation, who, in performing even a short journey, have at their disposal the elegance and convenience of the railway train. It is difficult to realize that throughout the United Kingdom—which to younger countries seems a type of almost immemorial civilization—the public highways were for a long time little more than tracks worn out of the surface of the virgin land, following principally the natural features of the country, and giving evidence that they had never been systematically made, but were the outcome of a mere habit of travel. They would not admit of the use of a stage coach with any degree of comfort or safety. Great men only, who could afford the necessary expense of a footman to run on either side of the coach and support it in rough places, adopted this method of travel.

The necessity for a better class of road cannot but have forced itself upon the Government of the country from time to time, if not for the benefit of travellers and to encourage trade, at least in order to facilitate the movement of troops in time of disturbance. Yet we find the state of the streets in the metropolis, as late as 1750, thus described in Blackie's "Comprehensive History of England": "When the only public approaches to Parliament were King and Union Streets, these were so wretchedly paved that when the King went in state to the House the ruts had to be filled up with bundles of fagots to allow the royal coach a safe transit." The same authority, some twenty years later, reports that notwithstanding numerous Acts of Parliament, of which no less than four hundred and fifty-two were passed between the years 1760 and 1764, for the improvement of the principal highways, little change for the better was perceptable. The roads in Scotland were equally bad, yet the tide of improvement which eventually set in was strongly opposed both in England and Scotland, involving in many places riot and bloodshed.

So strong was the aversion of the country people to the improved roads, that they would not travel over them. This bias may perhaps have partaken largely of that unreasonable conservatism which is always prone to assume that which is best, and opposes change on principle—an example of which is afforded by the conduct of the driver of the Marlborough coach, who, when the new Bath road was opened, obstinately refused to travel by it, and stuck to the old waggon track. "He was an old man," he said; "his grandfather and father had driven the aforesaid way before him, and he would continue in the old track till death." There are Marlborough coachmen yet in existence!

No one felt more keenly the deplorable condition of the roads than the post-boys, who were obliged continually to travel over them, and whose occupation must have been anything but light or agreeable. Cowper brings them vividly before us in the "Task":

"Hark! 'tis the twanging horn! . . . .
He comes, the herald of a noisy world,
With spatter'd boots, strapp'd waist, and frozen locks;
News from all nations lumbering at his back.
True to his charge, the close-pack'd load behind,
Yet careless what he brings, his one concern
Is to conduct it to the destined inn;
And, having dropp'd the expected bag, pass on.
He whistles as he goes, light-hearted wretch,
Cold and yet cheerful: messenger of grief
Perhaps to thousands, and of joy to some;
To him indifferent whether grief or joy."

These post-boys were a source of great trouble and vexation to the authorities of the post-office throughout the whole course of their connection with that department. A surveyor who held office about the commencement of the eighteenth century, complaining bitterly of the tardiness of the post, says, "that the gentry do give much money to the riders, whereby they be very subject to get in liquor, which stops the mails."

Doubtless the temptation of the ale house, the low rate of wages paid by the contractors, combined with the frequent bad roads and bad weather, explain the vexatious delays which induced letter-writers to inscribe on their missives, "Be this letter delivered with great haste—haste—haste! Post haste! Ride, villain, ride—for thy life—for thy life—for thy life!"

Dissatisfaction with the existing arrangements of the post was not, however, wholly due to the untrustworthy character of the post-boys Many irregularities reflect discreditably on the post-office officials. In 1635 a bi-weekly mail between London and Edinburgh was established, the journey being limited to three days. In 1715 six days were required to perform the same journey, which rate of speed continued for forty years. This retrogression indicates a sad lack of vigor in the post-office management. It is worthy of note that Scotland, in the year 1715, could not boast of a single horse post, all the mails being conveyed by foot posts. During the year referred to the first horse post was established between Edinburgh and Stirling.

About the middle of the seventeenth century, stage coaches came into use in England. For some time after their introduction they were monopolized chiefly by people of fashion, but they gradually became the established public conveyance of the country. Prior to this the only vehicle accessible to travellers of ordinary means was the carrier's stage-waggon, which, owing to its lumbering build and the deplorable state of the roads, made only from ten to fifteen miles during a long summer's day. The interior of this waggon exhibited none of the refinements of the modern means of travel, its only furniture being a quantity of straw littered on the floor, on which the passengers could sit or lie during the weary hours of their journey.

Unlike travelling in the present day, when one may go a hundred miles in a railway carriage without speaking to a fellow-passenger, the journey in the old-fashioned waggon brought all the travellers too close and too long together to admit of individual isolation; for they might be associated for days together as companions, had to have their refreshment

together, lived as it were in common, and it was even the custom to elect a chairman at the outset to preside over the company during the journey. In addition to other discomforts, travellers were in constant danger of being attacked by footpads or highwaymen, upset owing to the condition of the roads, or overtaken in storms against which the poorly constructed coach afforded but little protection.

About the latter part of the sixteenth century, packets began to be employed for the conveyance of mails, but communication even between different parts of the United Kingdom was very infrequent, while foreign voyages were more irregular. During the wars with the French in the seventeenth century, they were often captured by privateers, though they occasionally came off victorious after a fierce struggle. During the most favorable voyages the correspondence was invariably wet through, and the "rats" not infrequently appeased their literary appetite by devouring a portion.

Without detailing the various changes by which the post-office reached its present complexity of operation, a superficial glance will reveal the fact that our largest post-offices have developed from very small beginnings.

In 1796 the number of men employed in the London post-office for general post delivery was 126. Many places formerly quite separate from the motropolis have since been incorporated in it, and the agglomeration is now known postally as the metropolitan district. In 1884 the number of men required to discharge the duty of letter delivery in this district was no less than 4,030. The officers at present employed in the metropolitan district exceed 10,000, *i. e.*, exclusive of the postmen above referred to. In 1708 the staff of the Edinburgh post-office was composed of no more than seven persons. In 1884 the total number employed was 939. In 1799 the staff of the Glasgow post-office was composed of only eight persons. At present the staff of the Glasgow post-office numbers 1,267.

One novel department of the postal system in operation on most great post routs is the Travelling Post Office, called when brevity is desirable, as is often the case, the T. P. O. It consists of two or three, sometimes more, railway carriages connected by a hooded gangway or passage. (See initial cut). One side of the carriage is occupied by a series of pigeon-holes divided into groups for convenience of sorting letters. The mail bags are delivered by an apparatus consisting of an arm or arms of stout iron attached to the carriage, which can be extended outward from the side, and to the end of which the mail bag is suspended, and a receiving net also attached to the side of the carriage, which can likewise be extended outward to catch the mails to be taken up—this portion acting the part of an ærial trawl net, to capture the bags suspended from brackets on a roadside.

Though figures are of little service in conveying to our minds a due conception of the amount of work which they represent, yet some idea of the magnitude of the labor performed by the British post-office may be inferred from the fact that in 1883 the letters, post-cards, books, circulars, and newspapers transmitted through the office during that year numbered 1,853,541,400. The total weight, exclusive of the mail bags, would exceed 42,000 tons, which would be sufficient to provide full freight for a fleet of

twenty-one ships carrying two thousand tons of cargo each. What a burden of sorrows, joys, scandals, midnight studies, patient labours, business energy, and everything good or bad which proceeds from the human heart and brain does not this represent.

In view of the great quantity of correspondence conveyed by the post, as well as the hurry and bustle in which letters are often written it is not astonishing that writers should occasionally make mistakes in addressing their letters; but it will perhaps create surprise that one year's letters which could neither be delivered as addressed, nor returned to the senders through the Dead Letter Office, were over half a million in number! Letters posted in covers altogether without address number 28,000 in the year, while loose stamps found in post offices reach the annual total of 68 000. It may be interesting to note just here that for the United Kingdom, one year's issue of those tiny bits of paper known as postage stamps amounts in weight to no less than 114 tons.

In London on valentine's eve, 1874, some 316 extra mail bags were required for the additional work thrown on the post-office. This custom reached its culmination some twelve years ago, since which it has steadily declined. Its decay may be attributed to the progress of the rival custom of sending cards of greeting and good wishes at Christmas time, which, owing to its patronage by all classes, has developed to enormous proportions. In the Christmas week of 1882 the extra correspondence which passed through the London post-office was estimated at fourteen millions, including registered letters (presumedly containing presents of value), of which there was no less than three tons.

The post-office is not only called upon to perform the duty of expeditiously conveying the correspondence entrusted to it, but is made the vehicle for the carriage of an almost endless variety of small articles. Amongst these are the following—many of them having been alive when posted—viz, beetles, bees, gold-finches, caterpillars, crabs, frogs, leeches, moles, owls, rabbits, rats, squirrels, snails, snakes, worms, toads, etc; also artificial teeth, artificial eyes, cream, eggs, mince pies, musical instruments, ointments, pork pies, revolvers, sausages, tobacco, cigars, etc. Occasionally the sending of live reptiles through the post-office gives rise to a lively scene when the snake's hiss has escaped from the packages in which he had been enclosed.

A large portion, or in fact nearly all the work done by the post-office in the transmission of mails, devolves on sorters, who, unlike men following some other avocations, are a race unsung and a people unknown to fame, possibly because they are a comparatively modern institution, and the work done is carried on practically under seal.

The sorters form a very large body ever engaged in performing an important and by no means simple duty. In many offices they are required to work all night. Most persons have a very hazy idea of what the sorting of letters really is. This is the process in Edinburgh, for example: The letters when posted are found all mixed together and bearing addresses of every kind. They are first arranged with the postage stamp in one direction and are stamped—the labels being defaced in the process—and the letters are then ready to be sorted. They are conveyed to sorting frames,

where a first division is carried out, the letters being divided into about twenty lots. representing roads, or despatching divisions, and a few large towns; then the final sortation takes place. This seems a very simple process. But before a sorter is competent to do his work he must learn 'circulation," which is the technical name for the system under which correspondence flows to its destination. It is almost impossible for some ever to become good sorters. The qualities of self command—necessary when working against time—activity in person in order to meet any sudden strain of work, methodical habit, and a quick, prehensile and retentive memory are particularly essential, and unless they are united in the same man he will never be succesful as a sorter.

The introduction of a new phase of postal communication in the form of the carrier pigeon furnishes us with a remarkable instance of the way in which the intellectual superiority of man has enabled him to appropriate to his purposes the physical powers of the lower animals. During the Franco-German war of 1870-71 great service was rendered by the carrier pigeons in keeping up postal communication with Paris. Letters intended for this novel mode of transition had to be sent to the headquarters of the French post-office at Tours, where, by a process of photography, they were transferred in a wonderfully reduced form to a diminutive piece of very thin paper, such as a pigeon could carry, the photograph process being repeated on their arrival in Paris, for the purpose of obtaining an enlarged copy. The essential conditions of transition were that the letters should be without covers—registered—restricted to twenty words written in French, and relate solely to private affairs. The charge was fixed at five pence for each word, and six pence for registration. During nine months the number of letters conveyed from London to Paris by this means was 1,234.

The unblushing way in which the British post-office in its earlier days was called upon not only to convey franked letters, but, under forged franks, articles of a totally different class, will be perceived from the following cases:

"Dr. Creighton, carrying with him a cow and divers other necessaries."

"Fifteen couples of hounds going to the King of the Romans with a free pass."

"Some parcels of cloth for clothing colonels in my Lord North's and my Lord Grey's regiments."

"Two servant-maids going as laundresses to my Lord Ambassador Methuen."

"Three suits of cloaths for some nobleman's lady at the Court of Portugal."

"One little parcel of lace, to be made use of in clothing Duke Schomberg's regiment."

It is not to be understood that the things consigned actually passed through the post-office, but were admitted for transport on board the special packet ships of Government sailing for purposes of the post-office. Petty frauds are committed on the post-office to a large extent at the present day by the senders of newspapers who infringe the rules by enclosing all sorts

of things between the leaves, such as cigars, tobacco, collars, gloves, music, sermons, etc. People in the United States and Canada are much given to these practices, as is shown by the fact that in one half of the year 1874 more than 14,000 newspapers were detected with such articles secreted in them. The Cape Diamond robbery of 1880 may be referred to as an example of the great robberies which have been perpetrated on the post-office. The value of the diamonds stolen at that time was £60,000.

The post-office, while it is the willing handmaid to commerce, the vehicle of social intercourse, and the necessary help in almost every enterprise and occupation, becomes at the same time a ready means for the unscrupulous to perpetrate a wonderful variety of frauds on the public, and enables a whole army of needy and designing persons to live upon the generous impulses of society. We may give one instance coming within the class of the "confidence trick." In several country newspapers the following advertisement made its appearance:

"An elderly bachelor of fortune, wishing to test the credulity of the public, and to benefit and assist others, will send a suitable present of genuine worth according to the circumstance of the applicant, to all who will send him 17 stamps, demanded merely as a token of confidence; stamps will be returned with the present."

The address followed, which was not the same in all the advertisements.

HASTE! HASTE! POST HASTE

The advertiser would be able to say how far he profited by this little arrangement, but some idea of the simplicity of mankind may be derived from the fact that between three and four hundred letters for this person, each containing seventeen stamps, reached the Dead Letter Office—owing

doubtless to his having removed from the places where he lived in consequence of their becoming too warm to hold him. The following is a specimen letter from one of the dupes:

"I have enclosed the seventeen stamps and shall be very pleased to receive any present you will send me. As I am not very well off, what I would like very much would be a nice black silk dress, which I would consider a rich reward for my credulity."

The addresses of letters passing through the post have often very curious features arising from various causes. Sometimes the whole writing is so bad as to be all but illegible; sometimes the orthography is extremely at fault; occasionally the writer, having forgotten the precise address, makes use of a paraphrase; sometimes the addresses are insufficient, and sometimes they are conjoined with sketches on the envelopes showing artistic taste and comic spirit. An illustration of this is shown on page 9.

The following addresses are made use of apparently owing to the correct addresses being lost, but the direction given serve their purpose and the letters were duly delivered.

"For a gentleman residing in a street out of the ——— Road, London. He is a shopkeeper, sells newspapers and periodicals to the trade, and supplies hawkers and others with cheap prints, some of which are sold by men in the street. He is well known in the locality, being wholesale. Postman will oblige if he can find him."

"This is for old Mr. Milly, what prints the paper in Lancaster, whore the jail is. Just read him as soon as it comes to the post office."

"Mr. ——— Travelling Band, one of four playing in the street
Persha [Pershore]
Please to find him if possible. Worcestershire.

"This is for her that makes dresses for ladies that lives at tother side of the road to James Brocklip.
Edensoever, Chesterfield."

"This is for the young girl that wears spectacles, who minds two babies.
30 Sheriff Street
Off Prince Edwin Street Liverpool."

"To my sister Jean
Up the Canongate
Down a Close
She has a wooden leg. Edinburgh."

"My dear Aunt Sue as lives in the Cottage by the wood near the New Forest."

It occasionally happens that when the eye is unable to make out an address the ear comes to the rescue. In London a letter came directed to

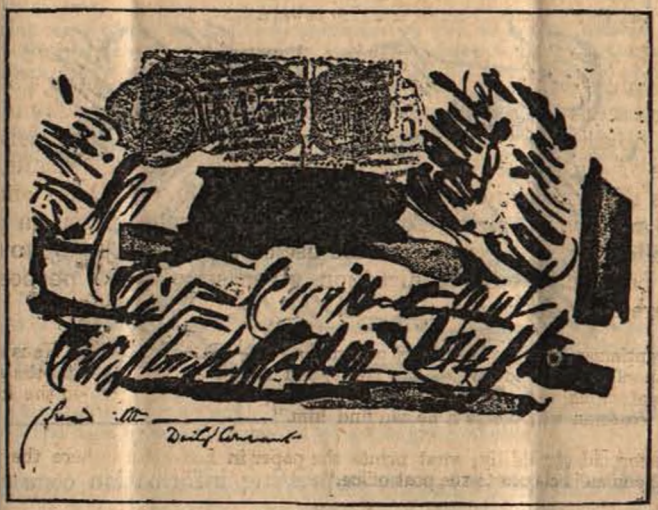
"Mr. Owl O'Neil
General Post Office."

But no one was known there of that name. A clerk looking at the letter commenced to repeat aloud, "Mr. Owl O'Neil, Mr. Owl O'Neil," when another clerk, hearing him, exclaimed, "Why! that must be intended for Mr. Rowland Hill," which indeed proved to be the case. A similiar circumstance happened in Edinburgh with a letter from Australia addressed to

"Mr. ———
Johns 7 Scotland."

It proved to be intended for Johnshaven, a village in the north of Scotland.

In another instance the address—"23 Adne Edle Street, London"—proved to be intended for 2 Threadneedle Street, London. Again—"No. 52 Oldham and Bury, London"—was written for No. 52, Aldermanbury, London.



The letter of which the above represents the address was posted at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and delivered to the editor of the *Courant* in Edinburgh. It represents, it will be observed, a deer "courant." A *Fac-Simile* of a portion of the communication enclosed is presented on the next page, which will give an idea of the interest attaching to editorial work, and afford valuable information to the reader.

In the London post-office indistinctly addressed letters are at once set aside, so as not to delay the work of sortation, and are carried forthwith to a set of special officers who have an aptitude for deciphering indistinct writing. These officers, by a strange contradiction in the sense of things, are called the "blind officers," and here the letters are rapidly disposed of, either by having the addresses read and amended, or marked with the name of a post-town for which they may be supposed to be intended. To facilitate this special work the "blind officers" are furnished with gazetteers, and other works containing the names of gentlemen's estates, farms, etc., and many letters reach the persons addressed by means of these books.

The marvellous extent to which the idea seems to prevail among people generally that they have a claim upon the post-office for assistance and guidance in obtaining what they consider otherwise unavailable, is shown by the curious letters frequently addressed to that institution. In the following the post-office is asked to hunt up missing relatives:

"I write to ask you for some information about persons who are missing. I want to find my mother and sisters who are in Melbourne Australia I believe—if you would find them out for me please let me know by return of post also your charge at the lowest."

"I wright these fue lines to ask you if you would be so kind as to tell me if there is such a person living in England.

She was living at Birmingham last Rtimmas--this his mi sister and brother-in-law—they hant in Birmingham now, let this letter go to every general post-office there is."

Among other letters are some requesting information concerning property:

"United States.

"Will you do me the kind favor as you are the post master and able to know as I judge of. It is this, give me the full name and address of any 'Mac——' that you know of in England, or in Scotland, or Ireland, or Wales, or in India, or at or in any other country that you may know of, with their full names and correct address so that I can write to them myself. If you have any pamphlet with the names of parties who have died and left money send as I want such information."

A farmer in the country wants a postmaster as go-between in a little business matter and pens him a few lines to the following effect:

"John —— acting as a Farmer here would be very much obliged to the Postmaster if he would be so good as to name a suitable party at —— to whom he might sell a 30 stone pig of good quality well—for he understands it is the best place to sell. The pig is now quite ready for killing."

A Frenchman, with hat in hand, and all ready to propose, merely wants to know as a preliminary whether the lady he has in view is still alive:

"A Monsieur le Directeur la Poste de Londres.

"Jai cinquante trois ans. Veuellez etre assez bon de me faire réponse pour me donner des resultats sur l' existence de Madame ——? Si parfois elle était toujours veuve je vondrais lui faire la proposition de lui demander sa main dáprès que jéa aurais des nouvelles. En attendant, Monsieur votre résponse."

The next specimen is from a person out of employment:

"Having lost my parents I am desirous of taking a house-keeper's situation where a domestic is kept. Must be a dissenting family, Baptist preferred. Thinking that such a case might come under your notice I have therefore taken the liberty of sending to you."

The following letter is of another kind, and not a bad effort for a school-boy:

"Not having received the live bullfinch mentioned by you as having arrived at the Returned-letter Office two days ago, having been posted as a letter contrary to the regulations of the postal system, I now write to ask you to have the bird fed and forwarded at once to ——; and to apply for all fines and expenses to ——. If this is not done and I do not receive the bird before the end of the week, I shall write to the Postmaster-general who is a very intimate friend of my father's, and ask him to see that measures are taken against you for neglect This is not an idle threat, so you will oblige by following the above instructions."

The Dead Letter Office must occasionally be supposed to be a repository for the human dead, as inquiries for deceased persons are sometimes addressed to the "Dead Office." Thus:

"We heard in the paper about 12 or 14 months back, Mary Ann—the servant girl at London was dead. Please send it to the Printer's office by return of post whether there was a small fortune left for ——"

"I write a line too see if you hard ennything of my husband—that was left at —— ill. Please will you rite back by return of post as we are in great trouble."

Extraordinary coincidences have been chronicled in connection with almost every situation in life, and the post-office is a fertile field for the observation of such occurrences. The peculiar nature of the coincidences in the following example is worthy of note. A traveller in the North of Europe became sadly puzzled with letters which followed him about, although not intended for him, and the difficulties of his case are described in a letter written by him, of which the following is a transcript:

"There was another Rev. J—— D—— (the same name) travelling in Norway at the same time, whose letters kept crossing my path everywhere, and when I read them I was almost in doubt whether I was myself or he, for his wife had the same name as mine and his baby the same name as mine and just the same age. But who he can be I cannot make out, only he is not I. Perhaps the registered letter which has given you such trouble may have been for him. It may satisfy you however to know that mine was all right."

Identity in names and addresses in all particulars sometimes gives rise to trouble and inconvenience. Through the mis-delivery of a savings-bank acknowledgment, it was brought to light that in a suburban district of London, where there were two terraces bearing exactly the same designation, there were residing at the same number in each two persons having not only the same surname but the same Christian name. In consequence of the misdelivery of a post-packet the following case of almost identical addresses was also brought to light:

"Mr. Andrew Thom
Bootmaker
8 Southbridge Street
Airdrie," and

"Mr. Andrew Thom
Boot-Top Manufacturer
86 Southbridge St.
Edinburgh."

For many years past it has been incumbent upon all candidates seeking employment in the post-office, as in other public departments, to undergo medical examination with the view of securing healthy persons for the service; and in the course of such examinations it is necessary for the medical officer to inquire into the health of the parents, brothers, and sisters of the candidate, etc. The following are examples of answers received:

"Father had sunstroke and I caught it of him."
"My little brother died of some funny name."
"A great white cat drawed my sister's breath and she died of it." A parent died of "Apperplexity," another died of "Parasles." One "caught Tiber rever in the Hackney Road," another had "goarnders," a third, "burralger in the head." Some of the other complaints were described as "rummitanic pains," "carracatic fever," "indigestion of the lungs," "toncertina in the throat," "pistoles on the back." One candidate stated that his "sister was consumpted, now she's quiet well again," while the sister of another was stated to have "died of compulsion."

We cannot better conclude this article then by reproducing the description given by Lewis, in his "History of the Post-office," of the proceedings at the closing of the mail-box at six o'clock in the London Central office:

"The newspaper window, ever yawning for more, is presently surrounded and besieged by an array of boys of all ages and costumes, together with children of a larger growth, who are all alike pushing, heaving, and surging in one great mass. The window with tremendous gape is assulted with showers of papers, which fly thicker and faster than the driven snow. Now it is that small boys of eleven and twelve years of age, panting, Sinbad-like, under the weight of huge bundles of newspapers, manage somehow to dart about and make rapid sorties into other ranks of boys, utterly disregarding the cries of the official policemen, who vainly endeavour to reduce the tumult into something like post-office order. If the lads cannot quietly and easily disembogue they will whizz their missiles of intelligence over other people's heads, now and then sweeping off hats and caps with the force of shot. The gathering every moment increases in numbers and intensifies in purpose; arms, legs, sacks, baskets, heads, and bundles seem to be getting into a state of confusion and disagreeable communism, and yet the cry is "still they come." Heaps of papers are now sent in sackfuls and basketfuls, while over the heads of the surging crowd are flying back the empty sacks, thrown out of the office by the porters inside. Semi-official legends, with a very strong smack of probability about them, tell of sundry boys being thrown in, seized and thrown out again. As six o'clock approaches nearer and nearer the turmoil increases, for the intelligent British public is fully alive to the awful truth that the post-office officials never allow a minute of grace, and that 'Newspaper Fair' must be over when the last stroke of six is heard. ONE—in rush files of laggard boys, who have purposely loitered in the hope of a little excitement; TWO—and grown men hurry in with the last sacks; THREE—the struggle resembles nothing so much as a pantomimic mêlée; FOUR—a babel of tongues vociferating desperately; FIVE—final and furious showers of papers, sacks and bags; and, SIX—when all the windows fall, like so many swords of Damocles, and the slits close with such a sudden and simultaneous snap that we naturally suppose it to be a part of the post-office operations that attempts should be made to guillotine a score of hands: and then all is over, so far as the outsiders are concerned. There may be some lingering regrets that these stirring scenes are among the things of the past. This bustling method of operation has been superseded by a quieter and more efficient system which provides branch offices or pillar-boxes for all large cities, thus altering the excitement which used to prevail at the chief office—the great central point where correspondence had to be deposited for despatch."—*Canadian Methodist Magazine.*

The Halifax Philatelist.

Published Monthly.

IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. 1. DECEMBER, 1887. No. 12.

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A **X** opposite this notice signifies that your subscription expires with this number. Kindly renew and oblige us.

WITH this issue we complete Vol. I. of the Halifax Philatelist, and it is with a certain amount of pride that we are looking back upon our first year's work. Like any other new undertaking we had many obstacles to contend with, and what we did not know we have always been grateful to learn from whosoever were in position to set us right, and we feel that in entering upon our second Vol. that we have paved the way to a long and pleasant existance. To our supporters both in Canada and in the United States, we hereby extend our grateful thanks, and trust that while having enjoyed their support they have reaped sufficient benefit in lieu of theirconfidence and kindness towards us.

We began small and have grown large, and beginning with the January issue of 1888 we will guarantee a circulation of 2000 copies per month, which we are safe in saying will be the best paying advertising medium on the American continent. Our friends should bear in mind that we are steadily increasing and that we will not feel contented before we are able to represent our Canadian Philatelist to the same satisfaction as the American Standard publications are pleasing their friends. Now, in order to carry out our most cherished intention we will once more appeal to your generous support, and ask all those who began their subscriptien when we started a year ago, to kindly renew for next year and remit us at earliest convenience.

Trusting the Halifax Philatelist will be a welcome visitor, and that we will be able to entertain you in the future to your entire satisfaction, we wish you all a very merry Christmas and most happy and prosperous New Year.

SOME time ago Larsen Bros. of this city received a consignment of Tolima stamps of the 1884 issue, amounting to something over $75.00. Being suspicious as to their genuiness they had the stamps examined by an expert detector, and they were pronounced dangerous counterfeits. Meanwhile the stamps are resting quietly awaiting the firm in Hamburg who sent them, to make inquiries as to sale remittance, etc.

The Hamburg firm made a mistake

when they thought they could use Larsen Bros. as a target for their counterfeit shooting.

THE November issue of the *Figaro* is to hand and we should say that no Philatelist need look any further for a representative paper, as Bro. Voute is certainly showing a great effort to please his many supporters.

The *Figaro* is simply immense.

WE have always been very particular in mailing our exchanges and in consequence thereof we expect to receive our return exchanges with the same regularity, but we are sorry to say that several of our friends are very negligent in this regard. In the future, one of our staff will superintend the exchanges in particular, and we shall take it as a favor if our contemporaries will inform us of any omission in this department.

WE regret very much being unable this month to furnish our readers with any further news as to how the C. P. A. is progressing. This is caused through the illness of Mr. Hooper, Sec. *pro tem.* We sincerely hope that Mr. Hooper will have a speedy convalesance and once more take his place at the wheel and steer the C. P. A. through the breakers, mooring safe at his desired destiny.

A STOCKHOLM paper by the name of *Tyskitten*, says that so far back as 1823 a Swedish officer, Lieutenant Trekenber, petitioned the chamber of Nobles to propose to the Government to issue stamped papers, especially destined to serve for envelopes for prepaid letters. The fact it adds, is duly recorded in the minutes of chamber under date of the 23rd March, 1823.—R. B. SPINK, in the *Ph. Annual.*

THE *Queen's Head*, a magazine of 116 pages and cover, published by Aird & Coghill, Glasgow, and edited by Glasgow post office officials, has been received with thanks. Coming to hand just as we are going to press, we have had no time to peruse its pages, but a hasty glance through it strikes us as being a very interesting volume, full of mirthful incidents, of which post office officials have more or less their share of.

To those who have not seen it, we would say, by all means secure a copy.

WE clip the following from the "*Queen's Head.*"

A ROMANCE OF A STAMP.

A POSTAGE stamp hung on the tip of her tongue,
A rapturous smile on her face;
While a pink *billet-doux*, held so daintly too,
To a gazer explained the whole case.

For a lover 'twas meant and to him it was sent,
With a stamp stuck so neat on *the back*:
And the fair creature sighed as homewards she hied,
As she thought of her dear lover Jack.

He had long held her heart but had asked her to part
With the hand of his beautiful belle;
And the dainty note said, she would not be afraid
To allow him to ring it as well.

As a stamp did not grace her sweet note on the face
(The sorter looked not on the back),
It was charged as "unpaid," and the thoughtless young maid
Got it back, marked "refused," from dear Jack.

He was downcast and sad,—she was just raging mad,
And all through that dainty pink note,
Till one day the two met, and, though both in a pet,
The affair was explained,—and forgot.

So you see after all what great things may befall
Through trifles that seem like the air!
When you put on a stamp,—neither too dry nor damp,—
On the face, top right hand, stick it there.

THE colours of the 12, 20 and 25 c. of Mexico, 1886, has been changed to lilac.

SEEN AND HEARD.

THAT an error has been discovered in the 3 cent Prince Edward Island stamp. The new discovery has a full stop between Prince and Edward thus: Prince . Edward.

THAT some well executed photos of the V.R. black English have been put about.

THAT Whitfield, King & Co. and Hagenstein, Paris, are calling each other names in the European philatelic press, and all on account of the Samoan labels.

THAT no less than 11 clerks are employed in the different departments of the firm of Stanley, Gibbons & Co.

THAT a batch of "Provisionals" may be looked for since President Mr. Gros has been deposed in the "Republic of Independent Guyana."

THAT some advertisers are growling because their "ads" did not appear in our last isue. To those we may say that we failed to discover the remittance, which in all cases is required with orders.

THAT few people seems to realize the fact that the "space" is the publisher's stock in trade, which can only be procured by paying the equivalent in dollars and cents.

THAT J. W. Palmer & Co. are the happy possessors of probably the rarest fiscal stamp in the world. This consists of one of the idential stamps by which George III tried to force upon the inhabitants of what was then British America, the obnoxious tax upon imported teas.

Correspondence.

THE OFFICIAL SEALED DEAD LETTER OFFICE STAMP OF CANADA.

While endeavouring to afford some information about those interesting and handsome adhesives emanating only from the Dead Letter Office at Ottawa, I regret being unable to give all of their history or chronology, what is said here, the writer has gained his knowledge by observation and experience, doubtless there are others who can speak of matters connected with these stamps which the writer knows nothing of. In the first place, they are scarce, very, and is to be accounted for when we consider the manner of their use. They are never found on Local Dead letters, registered or unregistered. What have been seen here, have all come from the U. S., and always on returned dead registered letters? I discovered the manner of their use quite accidentaly. A friend who travels in Canada for a U. S. firm, showed me a letter which had been returned to his address in Mich., and which he had posted in Canada for a Canadian address and registered and for some reason, misdirection or what not, the letter was not delivered to party addressed, had been sent to D. L. O., Ottawa, where on being opened to ascertain address of writer, it was resealed and adorned by D. L. O. crown official seal stamp, sent to D. L. O., Washington, U. S., and then sent on registered to the writer address in Mich., where he obtained it, and exhibited it triumphantly to me.

The stamp itself is large, oblong, perf. 17 × 34, printed in brown, on thick white paper. Inscribed in 3 lines : Post Office, Canada, Officially Sealed.

Dead letter office. It would be appropiated to have the color of the stamp *black*. No 2, C. P. A.

ISSUING OF THE FIRST POSTAGE STAMPS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

In looking over any of the Standard Stamp catalogues the reader will see that the date for the issue of postage stamps in Nova Scotia is 1857, and New Brunswick in 1851. It always seemed to me as very peculiar, considering the nearness of the two countries and the resemblance in their Governments that Nova Scotia should be so long behind New Brunswick in issuing stamps.

I determined to turn the matter up on the first possible occasion, and see if the dates were in reality correct.

On enquiring at the Provincial Secretary's office in Halifax, I found that all records of the Nova Scotian P. O. Department, had at the confederation of the British North American provinces been transferred to Ottawa. However, through the kindness of the Hon. W. S. Fielding, the Provincial Secretary, I found in the Legislative Library the yearly reports of the Post Master General of the province for the years previous to confederation. Starting with 1857, the supposed date of issue, I found that postage stamps were regularly mentioned in all parts of the Departmental accounts.

It was the same in 1856, 1855 and 1854. A person would imagine from the way the accounts read that stamps had been used for 20 years previous.

In the reports dated Jan. 7, 1854, (being the work for 1853) I found an item of information which is not given in any catalogue, it is as follows :

"One Penny postage stamps having recently been received from London, and put into circulation are now to be had in nearly every post office in Nova Scotia.

There are at present stamps for 1 shilling, 6 pence, 3 pence, and 1 penny ; and the public have thus every facility afforded them to prepay their letters to any place to which stamps can free them. His Excellency's Government having at considerable outlay introduced into the country the system of prepayment by stamps, it is a subject of gratulation, that the public at large are beginning to feel and appreciate their convenience and advantages, a much larger amount having been issued from my office during the past than the previous year, being an increase of over 25 per cent. as will be seen by reference to report 1."

Thus finding that the one penny had not been issued till some time after the other values were, I then turned to the report dated Jan. 2, 1853, (being the report for the year 1852) in which he says :

"Postage Stamps valued at 1 shilling, 6 pence and 3 pence have been procured from Trelayney Saunders, Esq., stationer, of London, and supplied to stationers, post masters, merchants and others, at a discount of 5 per cent. allowed on sums of £5 and upwards. During the past year there have been issued from my office postage stamps to the value of £355 2s. 6d. This is a much smaller circulation than was anticipated at the time of their introduction into the provinces, the public generally, I apprehend not yet clearly understanding their use, nor appreciating their advantages.

They are deposited with the Receiver General for safe keeping, from whom I procure them when a supply is needed. Application has been made for one penny

stamps, which are expected to arrive shortly."

Then taking the report for Jan. 5, 1852, I find among the accounts of the P. O. Dept. for the quarter ending the 5th Jan, 1852, the following issues;

By amount of postage stamps on hand £100
By amount due Rec. Genl for postage stamps 100
consisting of 3 penny to value of 52
" 6 " " 24
" 1 shilling " 24

Also in same report accounts for quarter ending 5th Oct., 1851.

By amount of postage stamps....£100
" cash paid to Hon. Jos. Howe, being amount remitted by him to Treylayney Saunders, Esq., for postage stamps for Nova Scotia.....£221 14s. 8d.

These extracts from Post Master General's reports and from Post Office Dept. accounts will positively decide the question as to date of issue.

The three penny, six penny, and one shilling were I should think issued to the public in the second quarter of 1851, and the one penny were probably put out about the last part of 1853.

In the same reports I also found the following:

"To remedy to some extent the serious inconvenience said to be experienced by merchants and others in consequence of there being no seven and one-half penny currency postage stamp, by which, parties who feel desirious could thus prepay their letters to England, and not wishing to put the province to any further expense in having another "*die*" prepared, I considered it expedient to allow *half* stamps to be used with those now in use, to obviate the want of accommodation complained of, and a circular was accordingly forwarded to my deputies, and a notice issued to the public to the effect that letters could be prepaid to England by stamps, by parties using a six pence or two three penny stamps together with *half a three penny stamp.* The three penny stamp to be cut *diagonally*, and the half to be equivalent to 1½d. The three penny stamp alone to be used for that purpose."

The three penny stamp I have never seen cut and used in that manner. This order was issued after the reduction of the packet postage to England, from 1 shilling to 7½ pence.

Major Evans, in his catalogue, mentions the three penny surcharged "Paid 5 cents" and also overprinted 5 cents. This I think can be easily explained as will be seen by the following. About 1854 (I think but am not sure) an agreement was entered into between the Post Masters General of Nova Scotia and the United States for the exchange of correspondence between their respective countries. It was agreed upon that the postage should be 5 cents, the Nova Scotian three penny stamp to be equal to that value.

All letters going to the United States from Nova Scotia, west, to be stamped on the face whether they were paid or not, by the office which despatched the mail to the United States. The stamp which was used for that purpose corresponds in all particulars with the supposed surcharges. This stamping I have no doubt has occasionally been done on the postage stamps, and thus those so called surcharges have become known.

All the efforts that I made to find out who first proposed the introduction of

postage stamps in Nova Scotia were in vain. But I presume judging from the accounts of the P. O. Dept. that the Hon. Joseph Howe was instrumental in doing so. This indeed was an act worthy of the liberal and enlightened mind of one of Nova Scotia's greatest sons.

DONALD A. KING.

THE PHILATELIC JOURNALS OF 1887.

CANADA AND U. S.

BY HENRY B. HARTE.

No. 1. Journals in Existence, Dec., '87.

Philately may well be proud of her Journals or Organs as the year 1887 draws to a close. In the past a few of them have held no mean positions in the literary world. To-day many of them are acknowledged to be first-class literary productions.

A brief sketch of such as are in existence, December '87, cannot fail but to be of interest to Philatelists generally, and will be the theme of the present article.

The Philatelic Monthly.

The first number of this, the oldest Philatelic publication in existence, was issued February 1st, 1875. The first volume consisted of 11 numbers, 4 pages to each issue. With vol. 2 the number of pages were increased to eight, which size it has ever since retained. It has all alone contained a reliable chronicle of new issues, which were illustrated with cuts, until Congress passed the law prohibiting their use. In all its years of publication it never missed an issue until July 1887. This lapse was caused by the severe illness of the publisher, L. W. Durbin, who on the 12th of August passed away from this world to a happier one beyond the grave.

It is probable that the publication of this paper will be continued for some time, as the heirs of the late Mr. Durbin intend carrying on his business at the old stand.

The Philatelic Courier.

The first Canadian Journal published in the interest of our hobby. It is a quarterly journal. The first number appeared in the fall of 1881. Henry Hechler, of Halifax, being its sole editor and proprietor. It was published regularly until the outbreak of the North-West Rebellion in 1885, when Mr. Hechler, who had command of a company of the Halifax Provisional Battalion was ordered out to help crush the rebellion. Its regular publication was consequently suspended, however, supplements to it have been issued from time to time up to the present date. It is the intention of Mr. Hechler shortly to resume its regular publication. Its subscription price is $1 a year, circulation between 2000 and 3000 copies.

The Philatelic World.

Published by R. R. Bogert, *Tribune* Building, New York City. First published January, '83. It always appears promply each month, its main feature being a chronicle of new issues. It is a four page sheet, each page being surrounded with a neat red border. A feature of it at present is a catalogue of post-cards which it publishes monthly. Subscription price 25 cents a year.

The Philatelic Herald.

This journal during the four years of its publication has assumed various shades and sizes; at one time a large four page sheet; at another an eight page and cover form; at present it consists monthly of eight 12 × 9 inch pages. Its publisher is W. W. Jewett, 504 Congress St., Maine. Among its list of contributors are some of the best writers of the day. It has a circulation of about 1000. Subscription price 25 cents. To foreign countries 35 cents.

The Philatelic Gazette.

This neat journal is published and edited by Edwin C. Mann, and Edward E. Kendig, at Altoona, Pa. It was started June, '84, as a stamp journal, then embraced coins, but has returned now to its first love. It was formerly known as "The Stamp and Coin Gazette," its present title it has borne only since January, '87. With Vol. IV. it appeared with its present handsome engraved cover. Its monthly issues consist of twelve pages and cover. Its subscription price is now only 15 cents a year to Canada or the United States; 25 cents to foreign countries. It is contributed to by the best writers of the day.

The Empire State Philatelist.

From a neat little eight page (scarce 6 × 8 inches) journal, published January '85, the "Empire State Philatelist" has grown to the handsome publication that it was *when we last set eyes upon it.* It is published by T. C. Watkins, of New York City, its editor being T. C. Coke. It is the official organ of the National Philatelic Society. It has a yearly circulation of 30,000 copies. It has contained many articles of interest to Philatelists. Subscription price 35 cents; to foreign countries 50 cents.

The Philatelic Journal of America.

The first number was issued March, 1885. Unlike most of the stamp papers that have been published it did not follow the old proverb: "Great oaks out of little acorns grow," but appeared as a good-size magazine, and has developed into one of our leading Philatelic journals. The first twelve numbers were published by Mr. E. M. Hackett, of St. Louis. Mr. C. H. Mekeel acting as editor and business manager. The second volume was published by the Philatelic Publishing Co., of St. Louis. Messrs. Hackett & Mekeel being jointly interested.

The journal is now owned and edited by Mr. Mekeel. It contains on an average over 30 pages monthly, and during the past year has given its readers in monthly parts a valuable catalogue of postage stamps, compiled by Major Evans, R. A. Its monthly circulation is about 5000 copies. Subscription price 50 cents to Canada, U. S. and Mexico, 75 cents to other countries.

The Philatelic Tribune.

This paper was first published September, '85, the initial number consisting of ten, scarce 6 × 9, pages and cover. F. J. Stanton is the sole editor and proprietor; it comes from Smyrna, N. Y. It never has contained much of interest to Pilatelists, and since its enlargement in

March, '87, to a 32 column eight 12×16 page journal, it has lost whatever claim it may have had to be called a Philatelic journal. Subscription price 25 cents, to foreign countries 40 cents.

The Quaker City Philatelist.

Published by the Quaker City Philatelic Publishing Co. It is the official organ of the Quaker City Philatelic Society, and of the Philadelphia section of the Internationaler Philatelisten Verein.

The first year of its publication it was edited conjointly by H. McAllister and E. R. Duborrow. At present by Mr. McAllister and E. P. Lynde.

At the end of its first year of publication a new company was legally formed to carry it on with a paid up capital of $300. This company is authorized for 20 years. It has a monthly circulation of 4000 copies; subscription price 25 cents a year; abroad 35 cents.

The Stamp.

The first number of this paper appeared the end of February, 1886, dated, however, March. It hails from Denver, Colorado. The initial No. was originally published by C. D. Smith, at present by Mr. Smith and E. J. Klock, at Delta, N. Y. A page monthly is devoted to a Philatelic directory. It has a circulation of 1000 copies each month. Subscription price to all postal union countries, 25 cents.

The Curiosity World.

A large four-page paper devoted to general collecting, published by John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. B. It is the official organ of the New England Philatelic Union. The first number was issued September, '85. It is the publishers intention to issue it now as a fortnightly publication. Subscription price to U. S. and Canada, 25 cents, to foreign countries 37 cents.

The Old Curiosity Shop

is published by Will. M. Clems, late of Jamestown, N. Y., now of San Diego, Cal. It was first issued December, '82. From June '86, to June, '87, it was owned and edited by W. B. Brockway. It was devoted to the interests of collectors of coins, stamps, etc. Each number consists of twelve pages and cover, its circulation is about 2000. Subscription price 25 cts a year.

The Collectors' Review.

The first number appeared October, 1886, a small four page sheet. With No. 6 four additional pages were added; with No. 7 a cover; with No. 12 its present enlarged cover. It is published and edited by Messrs. Babb & Carstarphen, Denver, Col. During the past few months it has contained an interesting continued article entitled, "A Philatelist's Observations Abroad," by Lieut. J. M. Partello. Subscription price 25 cents a year.

The Youths' Ledger.

A large 11 × 16 inch sheet devoted to general collecting, but a strong friend of Philately. It is published by the Youths' Ledger Co., P. O. Box 3487, New York City. Gustaie Aue, Business Manager, Alvah Davison, Editor. The publishers of this paper generously offered it free to the members of the A. P. A. Subscription price 25 cents, to foreign countries 40 cents.

The Western Philatelist

is published by the Western Philatelic Publishing Co., Chicago, Ill. The initial No., consisting of 12 pages and cover, appeared January 1st, 1887. It is the official organ of the Chicago Philatelic Society. It is now in every sense a first-class Philatelic publication. It gained quite a celebrity during the year by its publication of "A Flatlist Eckseperiens," and "The Demon Stamp," also by its fight over the official organ of the A. P. A. The company by whom it is published is composed by Messrs. C. R. Gadsden, S. B. Bradt and P. M. Wolsieffer. Subscription price 50 cents a year, 65 cents to postal union countries.

The Halifax Philatelist.

Which we may style the representative Philatelic journal of Canada, was issued January, '87. From eight pages and cover, with which it started out, it has enlarged to sixteen pages and cover. It has during the year contained interesting articles on the "Stamps of N. S. and N. B," by C. F., "S. P. M.," by Theo. Larsen, and "Watermarks," by Henry Hechler. It is published by the Halifax Philatelic Co., Halifax, N. S. Its editorial chair is now occupied by Theo. Larsen, formerly by F. C. Kaye. Subscription price 25 cents a year.

The International Philatelic Advertiser.

As its name denotes, its columns are devoted principally to advertisements. It is a large twelve 11 × 8 inch sheet, published by Krebs Bros., 81 Nassau St., New York City. The first number appeared January, 1887. It publishes a monthly record of new issues. For typographical appearance it would be hard to beat it.

The American Philatelist.

The initial number of this journal, the official organ of the American Philatelic Association, appeared January 10th, '87. It was ably edited by Mr. W. R. Fraser. After the publication of two or three numbers it suspended owing to the fight among the members of the A. P. A. In October the publication was resumed and it is now a handsome journal in appearance, and bids fair under its present management, and with its able staff of contributors, to become a prominent light in the Philatelic world. It is sent free to members of the A. P. A., to all others 50 a year.

The Keystone State Philatelist.

This paper is another of those that saw the light of day for the first time, Jan., 1887. It appeared with 8 pages and cover, which form it has retained throughout the year. It hails from Philadelphia, and is published by E. R. Durborow, at 203 South 10th St. Subscription price 15 cents a year. During the year it contained a series of interesting articles on U. S. Postage and Revenue Stamps, by A. F. Henkels.

The first three numbers were edited by E. R. Durborow and A. F. Henkels, Nos. 4 and 5, by E. R. Durborow, and and subsequently by Mr. Durborow and Wm. M. Watson, late publisher of the Germantown Philatelist.

The Stamp Collectors' Figaro.

The first number of this enterprising journal appeared March, 1887. It is

published by E. W. Voute, Chicago, Ill. From a twelve page and cover journal at the start it has enlarged to a twenty-four page magazine. Mr. T. J. Mitchell beginning with No. 3, for a few weeks held the position of associate editor. At present Mr. Voute is the sole editor. With No. 7 a column entitled "Canadian Squibs" was inaugurated. Mr. H. S. Harte becoming its Canadian correspondent. It has an able staff of contributors, among whom we may mention W. A. Fraser and S. J. Mitchell. Subscription price 35 cents a year.

The Philatelic Fortnightly.

Coming from Benson, Minn., was the first Philatelist publication which greeted us oftener than once a month. The initial number was dated April 5th, '87, E. R Aldrich being the publisher. It is a little four page sheet, scarce 5 × 7 inches. With No. 5, D. Y. Smith became the proprietor of it, Mr. Aldrich continued, however, to edit it. Among the contributors to its columns we may mention the names of F. J. Cuno, and F. E. P. Lynde. Subscription price 15 cents a quarter.

The Niagara Falls Philatelist.

Published by the Niagara Falls Publishing Co., Niagara Falls, (S.) Ontario, Canada; circulation 2000; subscription price 25 cents a year, 35 cents to foreign countries. The initial number consisted of twelve pages and cover. Several pages of its first two numbers were devoted to what are known as "Stamp Stories." However, with No. 3 the size of the paper was enlarged to 16 pages, and the "funny man" given his walking ticket. A slight improvement in its appearance would be a few less advertisements, more Philatelic matter, and a better quality of paper.

The Buckeye State Collector

is published by E. J. Smith, Portsmouth, Ohio, it is a neat eight page sheet. Subscription price 25 cents a year. Its initial number appeared August, '87. It is a paper devoted to general collecting, but is quite an interesting one for Philatelists.

The Texas Philatelic Journal.

The modest eight page sheet bearing this high-sounding title is published by Edgar T. Neville, at Paris, Texas. It first appeared August, '87. It has a monthly circulation of 500 copies. It contains a monthly record of new issues and general Philatelic news, also an exchange column. A bright little paper for its size.

The Witch City Philatelist

is published and edited by Fred. C. T. Davis, and P. S. Johnson, at Salem, Mass. The first number appearing July, '87. It is a neat four page paper, the official organ of the Salem Philatelist Society. It has a circulation monthly of from 1000 to 1500 copies. Subscription price 25 cents a year.

The International Collector

whose columns are devoted to general collecting is published at 516 Ellis St., San Francisco, Cal., Ed. Mendelson and Maurice V. Samuels being the publishers and editors. No. 1 appeared June '87, Each number consists of eight pages, the usual size, and a neat cover. Subscription price 25 cents a year.

Common Sense.

Sailing from Mexico, New York, is published and edited by F. A. Thomas, monthly, it consists of eight pages 10 × 6 and a handsome cover. It is devoted to general collecting. Contains many articles of interest to Philatelists. The subscription price is 25 cents a year.

The Charlestown Philatelist

is a small quarterly journal devoted to stamp collecting. Subscription price 10 cents a year. It is published and edited by Gust. J. Luhn, Jr., 65 Vanderhont St., Charlestown, S. C. Circulation 1000. This is the first paper ever published in the interest of our hobby on the South Atlantic coast. The initial number contains an account of the doings of the Charlestown Philatelic Society, and an article on "Charlestown Locals."

Toronto Philatelic Journal.

This journal was originally published from March, '85, to June, '85, a four page sheet, and then suspended owing to lack of time on the part of the publisher to devote to it. The first number of the new series appeared October, '87, consisting of eight pages and engraved cover. It is not, strictly speaking, a Philatelic journal. It contains a numismatic department edited by Jos. Hooper. The Philatelic department is edited by Geo. A. Lowe. The publishers are The Toronto Philatelic Co., 106 Huron St., Toronto, Canada. Subscription price 25 cents a year, 35 cents to foreign countries.

The Badger State Philatelist.

A monthly journal in the interests of stamp collectors, appeared for the first time December 10th, '87, it is a large four page sheet. The publishers are Carter & Judson, Delevan, Wis. Subscription 15 a year, foreign countries 25 cents. Circulation 500 copies. From the appearance of No. 1 we think that the prospects for this paper are fairly good.

THE following circular has been sent to the members of the C. P. A., which is self explaining:

CIRCULAR.

To the Members of the C. P. A.

DEAR SIR, I have been instructed to inform you that, through the serious illness of Mr. Hooper, of Ottawa, the Secretary, *pro.tem.*, the election of officers, and in fact all the business of the Association, will be delayed some weeks.

Also, that if there are no objections to the Constitution and Amendments, as published in the HALIFAX PHILATELIST, we declare it carried.

The Association now numbers over eighty members, and more are expected, thus assuring the success of the C. P. A.

Signed on behalf of the organizing Committee.

H. F. KETCHESON.

Bellville, December 2nd, 1887.

WE have seen a new stamp from that prolific country, the U. S. of Columbia. The design is entirely new, being as follows: in the centre a map of the Isthmus of Panama, on the border of the stamp the word "COLUMBIA," above the map "ANTILLAS," beneath it "PACIFICO," value beneath that 10 centavos.

Black on yellow paper, somewhat oblong in shape, perforated 17 × 15.

PLEASE mention this paper when answering advertisements.

STAMP STUDYING.

BY PHIL.

It is surprising to note among the many collectors that are now in every country throughout the world, how few really deserve the name of philatelists.

Philately or stamp collecting as a science, does not consist merely in the accumulating together of a number of stamps that it is possible for them to obtain, no, it signifies something more than that, something elevating, in fact, something to study. But now comes the question, how are we to study our stamps and which is the best way? and the answer is by no means a difficult one, simply *read*, that is, read all that can be obtained from good journals relating to the study, articles written by prominent philatelists, and by this means you will acquire a knowledge in regard to philately, that you can get in no other way.

One of the best articles at present, by which to study your stamps, is the Philatelic Catalogue, which is published each month in Mr. C. H. Mekeel's fine journal, *The Philatelic Journal of America*, as besides giving a very full description, it also gives a very fine cut of each stamp, and we would advise anyone who is not already a subscriber to Mr. Mekeel's paper to lose no time in sending on for it. But then there are a great many who consider that they know just as much about their stamps as any one and therefore never open a philatelic paper more than to see if it contains their last exchange notice or advertisement. Not long since we had the pleasure of looking through a collection of about 3200, and t hese about 300 were forgeries and reprints and about 500 badly soiled or torn, and nearly all arranged in a careless manner, and it just occurred to us at the time that it was better to have a collection of about 1500 of good genuine varieties about which we know something than this fairly large one of bad stamps.

ON VARIOUS THINGS.

BLUE NOSE.

THE early Prince Edward Island stamps were ordered by George Dundas, Esq., Lieutenant-Governor, in 1856, and were engraved by Mr. Chas. Whiting of London, England.

IN *Harpers' New Monthly Magazine* for Oct., 1871, Vol. 43, No. 257, will be found an 18 page illustrated article on New York City Post Office, extending over a period of 200 years; also a 10 page article on "Postage Stamps and their Origin," with 100 illustrations; both of these articles are interesting and no collector should be without them.

IT is suprising to see what amount of petty spite is indulged in by certain of our American contemporaries; it certainly does not add to the dignity of our "hobby" to have the editors of philatelic papers calling one another rogues, thieves and liars. The sooner this kind of bickering is stopped, the better. If you have just cause of complaint against you brother editor, make such complaint in a gentlemanly manner, and you will find it works better than all the abuse you can print. Moreover, you and your paper will be respected, both by collectors and others.

India has strict rules for enforcing good conduct in the civil service. The postmaster of Cabul defrauded the Government and was sentenced by the Ameer to a flogging, and then had all his hair pulled out. So says a local paper. What a bald-headed lot of politicans we would have if this rule were in vogue here? It would cause a revival of the old *wig* party.—*English Ex.*

POSTAGE STAMPS.

Some things are so common that few apprehend the ingenuity and labour required to make them. Postage stamps, for instance, are in everybody's mouth, except the wise ones, who use a wet sponge, but scarcely any one knows how they are manufactured. In printing them steel plates are used, on which two hundred stamps are engraved. Two men are kept hard at work covering them with the coloured inks and passing them to a man and girl, who are equally busy at printing them with large rolling hand-presses. After the small sheets of paper upon which the two hundred stamps are engraved have dried enough they are sent into another room and gummed. The gum used for the purpose is a peculiar composition, made of the powder of dried vegetables mixed with water, which is better than any other material, for instance gum arabic, which craks the paper badly. The paper is also of a perfect texture, somewhat similiar to that used for bank-notes. After having been again dried this time on little racks, which are fanned by steam power for about an hour, they are put between sheets of pasteboard and pressed by hydraulic presses, capable of applying a weight of two thousand pounds. The next thing is to cut the sheets in half ; each sheet of course when cut contains a hundred stamps. This is done by a girl with a large pair of shears, cutting by hand being preferred to that of machinery, which method would destroy too many stamps. They are then passed to other squads, who, in as many operations, perforate the sheets between the stamps. Next they are pressed once more, and then packed and labelled and stowed away in another room, preparatory to being put in mail-bags for dispatching to fill orders. If a single stamp is torn, or mutilated, the whole sheet of one hundred is burned. About five hundred thousand are burned every week from this cause. For the past twenty years not a single sheet has been lost, such care has been taken in counting them. During the progress of manufacture the sheets are counted eleven times.—*Scotsman.*

Belcher's Farmers' Almanack, 1888, is now ready, and for sale by all dealers. It is an old and reliable favourite, thoroughly up to the times in all its facts, figures, and information. It is a Farmer's Almanack, most of all ; but it is also stored with the facts which the man of business, the politican, the lawyer, the doctor, and the clergyman must have at hand. Its calendar is full and accurate ; its lists of clergy, solicitors, &c., all that can be desired. The light house and signal service, and all the information for "those who go to sea in ships" can be found under appropriate headings. "Belcher's" for next year is worthy of its long and fine record.

MAIL SERVICE IN JAPAN.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press* writes from Japan: "The postal service of this country is always pointed at as a model in its way—one of the foremost departments of the Europeanized Government. And, indeed, it must in all fairness be acknowledged that much credit belongs to Japan for swiftness in the despatch of mails, while fettered with a lack of railroads. In the first place, every train carries a mail, and in Japan, be it known the imperial railroads run through passenger trains every two hours, and on the Yokohama Railroad nearly every hour. Thus while in America three mails each way, daily, would be esteemed the climax of facilities, the minimum between the various cities here (in Japan) is about ten each way, daily. This applies merely to the railroads, of course.

The delivery of mails is also very prompt, and takes place a good many times a day. A person may mail a letter in Yokohama for Tokio, one hours ride to the north, as late as dusk. and yet receive an answer the same night, providing his friend is prompt. While in Yokohama I took occasion to mail a letter in a post-box as late as six oclock in the evening, at a point fully a mile from the post office. It was soon collected, delivered to the one to whom it was directed over the bluffs, and the same evening I received a call from the recipient. In the interior the mail is carried from town to town by messengers, who travel at a dog trot in cases where stage lines do not exist.

"Every effort is made in the case of foreigners, to deliver their mail to them promptly. So anxious are the authorities to deliver mail, that one of the missionary ladies in Kobe says, when last summer she went up among the mountains, six miles distant, a special man was sent from the office here, really against her wishes, who came all the way on foot, and was not content till he had hunted her up and delivered her the mail. The carriers go about the city at a dog trot.

JOSEPH J. Casey is exposing the late U. S envelope syndicate in the Figaro for November. He strikes some heavy blows at the clique.

Exchange Notes.

Under this heading we will insert notices of Exchange from subscribers only. All notices must be in by 5th of any month to insure insertion in that month's issue. The right to reject all exchanges reserved.

A $2 50 edition of the International Stamp Album, new, and a 3 penny red stamp of New Brunswick, 1851 issue, used for a 5 cent vermilion, and 10 cent brown envelopes' stamp of Canada, 186 · issue.

FRANK D. CROSBY,
Ohio, Yarmouth, N. S.

To every person sending me a post-card from any foreign country *except* Canada, I will send an unused 3 cent stamp.

E. L. RAISH,
Akron, Iowa, U. S. A.

WANTED.—Publishers to send samples of their papers, and dealers to send their price lists. Papers and Stamps to exchange.

M. A. MACDONALD,
207 W 5th St.,
A. P. A., No. 138. St. Paul, Minn, U. S. A.

Consignments of Foreign Stamps are desired. For which we will give Canada, United States, and Mexican in exchange.

ONTARIO STAMP CO.,
Port Hope, Ont.,
Canada, America.

WANTED —All 1868 issue, and ½, 10, 15 cents, and 2, 5 cent Reg. of present issue of Canada, also Canada bills. Gas, Weights and Measures, Law, &c., for good Foreign exchange. Newfoundland and American exchange wanted.

W. E. SIMPSON,
C. P. A. 60. Guysboro, Nova Scotia.

I will give the 90 Blue of Arg. Rep., surcharged, official, in black for any of the following 10 P. Blue, 1856, ½ Pink, 1858, or the officially sealed brown of Canada.

M. BRILL,
28 Sutton Place, N. Y. City.

U. S. postage revenue oddities, &c., to exchange for RARE U. S. and Foreign Postage, with advanced collectors, 1 million 3c. green to exchange.

HUGO KUENSTLER,
296 10th Ave., N. Y.
Member A. P. A.

WE have just received the FIRST and LARGEST consignment of the new issue of NEWFOUNDLAND STAMPS which we offer at the following prices, orders filled by return mail:

LARSEN BROTHERS,
40 Lockman Street,
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA.

New Issue.	Per 10	Per 50	Per 100
½ cent red brown	$0 10	$0 45	$0 80
1 cent green	0 20	0 90	1 60

Orders under 50 cents postage extra.

A. M. WRIGHT & CO.,

Dealers in Postage Stamps,

"SHEETS ON APPROVAL A SPECIALTY."

Agents, Collectors.

Address, A. W. WRIGHT & CO.,
P. O. Box 151, Brooklyn, N. Y.

A. LEHMANN, Jr.,

Collector and dealer in

U. S. and Foreign Postage Stamps,

635 MAIN ST., PATTERSON, N. J.

Sheets sent on receipt of deposit or A 1 reference.

Send for Price List.

IF you wish to

BUY, SELL or EXCHANGE

Stamps, write to me for quotations, lists of varieties, packets, exchange, &c., free on application. Correspondence in English, German, French or Spanish.

FREDERIC NOYES,
Collins, Texas.

STAMPS.

13 Italy, 10c; 8 Swiss, 5c; 8 Canada Bills, 5c; 8 Russian, 5c; 5 Guatemala, 5c.
2 Constantinople, unused, 1 Heligoland, unused, 12 centavos, Arg. Republic, unused, 12 cents.
Cash with order, postage extra.
5c Nova Scotia Stamp with 15c orders.
2c " " 25 "
Exchange solicited.

W. E. SIMPSON,
C. P. A., 60. Guysboro, N. S.

H. MATHERS,

P. O. Box 573,

HALIFAX, N. S.

Cheap Sets of Stamps.

Aalborg,	8 varieties	..	$0 20
*Alsace and Lorraine,	7 "	..	20
Bolivar, 1869, complete	4 "	..	45
Bergedorf,	5 "	..	10
*Corea,	5 "	.	45
Guatemala,	5 "	..	20
Gold Coast,	6 "	.	30
*Heligoland wrapper,	3 "	..	8
*Hamburg, envelope,	7 "	..	10
India Service,	5 "	..	15
*Nicaragua, 1882,	6 "	..	65
" 1869,	4 "	..	60
Russia,	13 "	..	8
Sierra Leone,	8 "	.	40
Sweden Losen,	10 "	...	20
*Samoa,	4 "	..	25

St. Pierre, S. P. M., 10 on 40, 15 on 40, 05 on 1 franc, 3 var.. 70

Stamps marked * are unused. Postage extra. All stamps guarenteed genuine.

Approval sheets sent on receipt of reference.

BUY NOW CHEAP.

7 Mexico	10 cts.	*Canada 8c Register	23 cts.
4 Orange States	6 "	*Br. Borneo, 25c	45 "
6 South America	5 "	Mexico, 1872, 100c.	20 "
20 "	25 "	Nova Scotia, 3 pence	25 "
3 Mexico, 1856	35 "	" 5 cents	5 "

Guatemala, 1886, 150c., provisional.. 40 "
Peru, 1 sol, unused, or 50c, unpaid. 1883, surcharged 90 "
* Unused.
Sheets on approval 33 1/3 per cent. Lists free or with 50 stamps, 24 cents.

ROBERT McRAE,
C. P. A. 6. 573 St. Urban St., Montreal,

25 all different United States Stamps, only 25 cents post-paid.

S. M. SAVIDGE,

Box 472, Pottstown, Pa., U. S. A.

SEND 10 CENTS!

(Silver) and have your name inserted in our Mammoth Directory of 1887.

C. W. ARMPIESTER,
P. O. Box 110, Pottstown, Pa.

MAX STADIE,

Dealer in Postage Stamps.

U. S. Rare Stamps a Specialty.

No. 2079 SECOND AVE., NEW YORK.

BARGAINS IN GENUINE STAMPS.

U. S. 1851, 5c, brown	$2 00
" 1856, 5c, "	2 75
" " 5c, red brown	6 50
" 1861, 5c, yellow	2 50
" 1868, 90c, blue grilled	2 25
* " Newspaper, 5c, blue border	4 00
*British Guiana, official, 1863, 1c, on 12c, lilac, (catalogue $5) only	2 00
*2c on 24c, green, (catalogue $5) only	3 00
Dominican Rep. Envelopes, complete and unused, 1881, 5c, 15c, 60c., and the 1885 10c, 40c, 45c, the 6 complete, for only	2 75
Mauritius, 1855, 2c on 38c, violet	35
*Corrientes, 3c, blue p	15

* Denotes unused specimens.
Everything warranted genuine.

Orders under $1 must be accompanied by return postage and cash with order, unless parties are known to me, or are members of C. P. A. or A. P. A.

All important letters please register, as I cannot hold myself responsible for any lost in transit.

My sheets are better than those generally sent out by other dealers, parties desiring such send a reference or deposit. No POSTAL ANSWERED. Agents wanted at good commission.

Advanced collectors send their list of wants.

The most convenient blank approval sheets, 100 for 42 cents post-paid, sample on receipt of 2 cent stamp.

Dealers having large lots of certain stamps will please send me such with an invoice, less than $10 worth need not be sent, for exchange against rare stamps or cash.

Rare Stamps bought and the purchase of good collections is made a specialty.

Your order and correspondence is respectfully invited.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

For a short time only, I will fill orders for the following :—

Canada, 1860, envelopes, (5c. and 10c.) entire unused, on white paper (per set)	$5 00
*Turkey, 1886, surcharged "Katchak" (10 and 20 para's, 1 and 2 pia's) per set	2 00
Martinque (set of four)	1 00
Sandwich Islands (set of two) 1853 issue	60
South African Republican Express (set of four)	36
Cashmere (set of six)	60
*China, 1886, (set of three)	25
*Puttialla (set of four)	25
Chili, officially sealed, each	1 25
Gaboon, prov'l, 5 on 20	75
" " 25 on 20	60

Stamps marked * are used.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.

Cash must accompany all orders.

Also, Approval Sheets sent at 25%.

J. ED. CASS,

208 Argyle St., - Halifax, N. S.

NOTICE.

HART, FINDLAY & CO.,

Stamp Dealers,

P. O. BOX 231,

HALIFAX, N. S,

have a large stock of

RARE FOREIGN STAMPS

from which they are prepared to send sheets on approval, for cash deposit or reference. List of wants solicited.

New Issue Newfoundland!

We have a stock of all the new issues, at following prices: ½c, each 2c; 1c, each 3c; 2c, each 4c; 3c, each 5c; 10c, each 15c. Set of the 5 new varieties for 25c.

HART, FINDLAY & CO.,
P. O. Box 231, Halifax, N S.

F. P. VINCENT,

DEALER IN

Postage Stamps,

Lock Box 28, - Chatham, N. Y.

Established 1880.

6	Argentine Republic	10 cents.
8	Brazil	10 "
1	Curacao	15 "
8	Finland	10 "
25	France, old and new	10 "
10	India	10 "
6	" 1874, H. M. S.	75 "
20	Italy, unpaid, 1 c. to 2 l.	20 "
8	" official, complete	8 "
8	Jamaica	10 "
7	Mexico	10 "
4	Persia	10 "
4	" 1877, complete	25 "
4	" 1879-80	30 "
5	" 1882	30 "
5	" 1885	15 "
16	Roumania	20 "
7	Servia, 1869, complete	15 "
11	Sweden, 1872-79, complete	8 "
6	U. S. Columbia	10 "
7	Venezuela	10 "
105	Foreign, all different	12 "

New list with each order free.

LARGE STOCK! LOW PRICES!

H. F. KETCHESON,

BOX 499,

Belleville, Ont., Canada.

DEALER IN

CANADIAN & FOREIGN STAMPS.

CANADA REVENUE.

5 varieties,	1st Issue bill	$0	25
6 "	2nd "		25
18 "	3rd " Complete		75
5 "	F. F. Law		75
8 "	Ont. Law		25
6 "	weights and measures		25
4 "	Gas	1	00

CANADA POSTAGE.

4 varieties,	1859	$0	17
6 "	1868		15
3 "	pence issue	1	50
15 "	all issues		15
3 "	Registered, complete		30
3 "	wrapper		10
Reply Card,	1886, (Error)		25

10 varieties,	Mexico	$0	15
4 "	Chili		04
5 "	Dutch Indies		05
3 "	China		13

Sheets of rare postage and revenue stamps sent on approval to persons known to me or sending a deposit of $3.00. My catalogue of nearly 400 varieties, Canada stamps, mailed to any address for only 10 cents. Orders under 50 cents MUST contain three cents for return postage. Consignments of rare stamps solicited, for which I will give cash or good exchange. I also want all varieties of Canada, P.E.I., N. S., N. B., and British Columbia for cash or good exchange; also weights and measures. Gas, Supreme Court and 3rd Issue Bill Surcharged, N. S.

Persons having any of the above to sell or exchange will please send them to me with price they want and a list of their wants, and I will give them a satisfactory bargain or return stamps sent.

Wm. V. D. Wettern, Jr.,

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

POSTAGE STAMPS,

176 Saratoga St., - - Baltimore, Md.

February list just issued; cheapest in the world. Sent free to dealers only.

Standard Stamp Co.

1000 HICKORY STREET,

St. Louis, Mo.

Every Collector should send for the BEST and CHEAPEST price-list of GENUINE stamps ever published.

FREE!!!

500 Agents Wanted 500

at 30 per cent commission. Our sheets are guaranteed to be the BEST and CHEAPEST ever put up!

Send for our Price List.

Stamp Collectors,
ATTENTION !

We wish to call your attention to our latest stamp novelties,

These goods will make a handsome parlor ornament, with stamps arranged artistically on them.

They are little round plates all frescoed and scalloped around the edges, with a handsome French picture in the centre.

They can be hung on the wall, or placed on an easel; and when you have 30 or 40 different varieties of Foreign stamps placed on them, it will give the room a unique appearance. They are made out of Egyptian Brass; but unlike the usual brass, it is

Guaranteed never to Tarnish.

We make them in three sizes, viz.; Small, Medium, and Large.

No. 1 is 6 inches high, with scalloped and frescoed edges. Price 15 cents.

No. 2 is 9 inches high with scalloped edges beautifully hammered. Price 25 cents.

No. 3 is 12 inches high, same as No. 2. Price only 35 cents.

We guarantee satisfaction.

All Goods are post-paid.

Special prices to Stamp Dealers on application.

Every collector should have a set of these beautiful gold tinted plates. These plates will hold tintags and small coins also. Catalogue for 2c. stamp.

Address all orders to

THE NOVELTY MANUFACTURING CO.,
No. 217 Callowhill St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

WE Guarantee you ***To Receive 500 Samples, Books, Circulars, Letters and Papers*** **FREE** from firms all over the U. S. and Canada if you send 20 cents to have your name in new issue of ***Agents' Name Directory. Copy Sent You with Your Name Inserted.***

Address ALLEN & Co., Kennedy, N. Y.

TASMANIAN STAMPS.

E. Granville Miller. Barrister-at-Law,

Launceston, Tasmania.

is desirous of obtaining all early pence issues of North America for cash or good Australian exchange. Selections of stamps solicited. Dealers supplied at low wholesale rates for cash or rarities. Reference permitted to Scott & Co., New York.

An Unused Entire Hawaiian Envelope
FREE

To every RESPONSIBLE collector who sends us an unused 2 cent stamp for one of our approval sheets at 25 per cent commission, and at same time promises to make return in 10 days. Only live collectors wanted.

EXCELSIOR STAMP CO.,
Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

N.B.—Price list and unused stamp free. Mention paper.

I WILL GIVE 25 mixed Foreign Stamps to every one sending for one of my Approval sheets at 30 per cent commission.

J. C. NIESSER,
Toronto, Ontario,
Canada.

Henry Gremmel,

(Member of the A. P. A.)

109 2nd Street, New York City,

Dealer in U. S. & Foreign Postage Stamps.

South African, Central and South American Stamps a speciality.

Old Stamps of every country, especially old U. S. and Canada and Provinces wanted for cash or good exchange. Fine Approval sheets at 33⅓% com. sent to parties furnishing good reference.

Specimen prices: Argentine, 60c., 12c., 90c., 25c.; Costa Rico, 1c. on ½R.—5c., 5c. on ½R., 20c, 40c.—50c; Transvaal, 1869, 5 var. complete 25c.; Tasmania, 1864, 1sh—6c., &c., &c. Correspondence: English, German, and Spanish.

THE STAMP.

A Monthly Magazine for stamp collectors. Issued on the 25th of each month, and in subscribers hands by the first of the month it bears date. Sample copy free. 25 cents per year.

STAMP PUBLISHING CO.,
Box 2922. Denver, Colo.

WE WANT AGENTS

For this paper everywhere, especially in schools and colleges, to whom we will pay a liberal commission. It will pay anyone to canvass for us a little, as agents find little trouble in getting subscribers. On receipt of a two-cent stamp we will send circulars, sample copies and special terms to agents. Write us.

HALIFAX PHILATELIC CO.,
Box 219. HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

WANTED. All kinds of Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, N. B. and P. E. I. stamps to exchange for those of Central and South America. Parties having any of the above stamps to exchange will find it to their advantage by corresponding with me. Stamps on approval at 25 per cent. com. Address letters to.

CHAS. L. MACKAY,
P. O. Box 179,
Panama, Columbia, S. A.

Largest Stock of Stamps and Coins in the World. *Standard Stamp Catalogue*, 200 pages, illustrated with 2000 engravings, 25c. *Standard Copper Catalogue*, illustrated, 25c. *Standard Silver Catalogue*, illustrated, 25c. *Philatelist Album*, 400 illustrations, board cover, 25c.; cloth, 50c. *International Album*, with specially designed spaces for every stamp issued, board cover, $1.50 cloth $2.50; also on heavy paper in various styles of binding, from $5 to $20. APPROVAL SHEETS sent to responsible parties. AGENTS wanted everywhere. Our packets cannot be equalled in quality or price. Circulars sent free.

Scott Stamp & Coin Co., L'd, 721 Broadway N. Y.

J. A. PIERCE,

DEALER IN

Postage and Revenue Stamps,

Room 43, McVicker's Theatre Building,

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

New price list, just issued, sent free. Approval sheets to responsible parties. U. S. postage and revenue stamps in quantities to exchange with European and American dealers. Correspondence solicited. Collections bought and sold. Latest editions of Albums always in stock. Rare Match and Medicine stamps at low prices.

PRICE LIST OF STAMPS.

U. S. P. O. 2 cts	$0 08
" 10 cts	40
" 24 cts. new	40
" 15 cts	15
" 30 cts	25
" 90 cts	75
" 6c. env. '73	08
" 2c. " '74	04
" 6c. " '74	04
Interior 12c	08
Treasury 7c	20
" 24c	70
War 10c	08
" 24c	08
" 90c	20
Centennial 3c. green	08
" 3c. red	08
1851 env. 10c. uncut	45
1857 wrap. 10c	45
Reg. seal, green, new	15
Allen's Desp. yellow	04
" pink	10
" black	15
Salvador, '67, 4c	15
Nicaragua, '77, 5c	04
" '80, 25c	12
"	12
Dominican Rep., 10c, '80	04
" " 2c, '80	08
Mexico, 1864, 2r	08
Norway, 1854, 4sk	04
" 1872, 6sk	03
" 1877, 50ore	02
" 1877, 60ore	08
U. S. Columbia, '83, new, 1c	02
" " " 2c	04
" " " 5c	08
" " " 10c	15
" '65, " 1pc	15
" '81, " 1c	02
" " " 2c	04
" " used, 5c	02
Confederate '62, new 1c	15
Fiscal, unpaid, 10c	05
Chili '67, 20c. used	04
" '77, 20c	04
Danish W. I., 5c. used	02
" 10c. "	02
Costa Rica, jr. "	03
Bermuda, 5d "	02
Bolivia, '79, 10c "	08
Persia, '80, 1sh	08
" " 2sh	08
" " 5sh	04
Philippine's 1878 ,25m	05

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*Martinique,	5 on 20		20
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*Prince Edward Island,	1d		25
" " "	2d		7
" " "	3d		7
" " "	4d		7
" " "	4½d		10
" " "	9d		10
" " "	1c		4
" " "	2c		4
" " "	3c		4
" " "	4c		4
" " "	6c		7
" " "	12c		7
Newfoundland,	used,	6c	5
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Nova Scotia,	"	3d	20
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Brazil,	unperforated, "	1000r	20
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4 "	"		6
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